



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

Bruce Elder, Sewer Utility Manager
700 City Hall Annex
25 West Fourth Street Phone: (651) 266-6234
Saint Paul, MN 55102 Fax: (651) 298-5621

May 26, 2010

Dear Property/Business Owner:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Saint Paul and the Sewer Utility Division of the Department of Public Works. As you know, construction on the Central Corridor Light Rail Transportation (LRT) project will begin soon along University Avenue and will involve a complete reconstruction of the avenue.

In St. Paul, as in most communities, property owners are responsible for their sewer service from the building to the public sewer main in the street. These private sewer services typically have a useful life of about eighty years. After that, the probability of a failure increases rapidly. Many sewer services from homes and businesses along the University Avenue corridor are of the age that they are vulnerable to failure.

We strongly recommend that you consider replacing your private sewer service during the LRT excavation work. The Central Corridor Project Office has estimated that replacing a private sewer service will cost about \$4,500 and the cost can be assessed to your property over a period of twenty years.

Timing your private sewer service replacement to coincide with the LRT work offers a significant cost savings for you because pavement and sidewalk removal and replacement will be paid for by the project – a cost normally paid by you. If you have to repair your service after LRT construction, the cost can easily exceed \$10,000 because of the added expense of extensive traffic detours and disruptions requiring your contractor to do the sewer work at night or on weekends. It would also cause significant inconvenience to your property and to others.

If you are concerned about the condition of your service, contractors are available to video tape it. You can locate companies who perform video inspections in the yellow pages under Sewer Inspections. Typical cost of the video is \$150 to \$300. To be useful, the video tape/DVD should:

- be in color
- have audio stating your address
- show digital foot measurements
- have adequate lighting and
- travel through the sewer slowly (one foot per second or slower)

This will enable you to see problem areas better. Be sure to request a copy of the video tape or DVD for your use. You can also visit our web site at www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?nid=2719 for additional information.

The Sewer Utility wishes to assist you in any manner we can. If you have any questions, or if you wish to replace your sewer service, please contact the Sewer Utility at (651) 266-6230.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Kassan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Kassan, P.E.
Sewer Utility